

# INVENTORY OF FOREIGN SEEDS AND PLANTS.

---

## INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT.

This inventory or catalogue of seeds and plants includes a number of exceptionally valuable items collected by the Agricultural Explorers of the Section of Seed and Plant Introduction. There is an interesting and valuable series of economic plants of the most varied uses procured by the Hon. Barbour Lathrop, of Chicago, assisted by Mr. David G. Fairchild. Mr. W. T. Swingle has continued his work in Algeria, Sicily, and Turkey, and this list contains many of his importations. There are also a number of donations from various sources, and a few seeds purchased directly from the growers.

The following importations represent perhaps the most valuable of the many interesting novelties here described: Mr. Swingle's collection of improved varieties of the date palm, procured in Algeria; a collection of spineless cacti from the Argentine Republic secured by Messrs. Lathrop and Fairchild, which may become valuable forage plants in the arid Southwest; genge clover, a leguminous forage crop and green manure which is grown in the rice fields of Japan as a winter soil cover and fertilizer; a collection of broad beans from England, this vegetable being practically unknown in the United States, although extensively used in Europe and on the Continent; a new seedless raisin grape from Italy for the raisin growers of California and Arizona; a little sample of wheat from Peru, donated by Dr. Cisneros, Secretary of the National Agricultural Society of Lima, a variety which was grown at an altitude of over 11,000 feet in the Andes, and which may prove both interesting and valuable in some locality in the Rocky Mountains; a large number of desert forage plants and saltbushes from an extremely arid region in the Northern Territory of South Australia; the Kirkagatch muskmelon, said to be one of the finest sorts grown in Asia Minor; Jannovitch cotton, a new Egyptian strain, secured in sufficient quantity for an extensive distribution; and the Khiva winter muskmelon, which was grown in Utah from seed originally imported from Khiva by Prof. N. E. Hansen.

Other collections of interest are: A new macaroni wheat from Chili; Mr. Swingle's extensive collections of economic plants from Algeria,